2018

Book Review: Sites of Exposure: Art, Politics, and the Nature of Experience

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Sites of exposure: art, politics, and the nature of experience (/review/10.5860/CHOICE.207600)

Russon, John, (/search?exactauthor=Russon, John) Indiana, 2017

193p bibl index, 9780253029003 $80.00, 9780253029256 $30.00, 9780253029416 $29.99
LC Call Number: BF (/search?lcstart=BF)204

Thoughtful, insightful, interdisciplinary, multifaceted, wide-ranging, and culturally engaging, this book casts a wide net. Russon (philosophy, Univ. of Guelph, Canada) deploys art, literature, and religious traditions to show that philosophy is relevant to living because it raises important fundamental questions about matters that endow life with purpose—matters such as freedom, meaning, cultural diversity, being at home in the world, and the stakes of political life (bios politikos). The author provides a unified vision of a philosophy of art, history, and culture, and he avoids academic jargon in a successful attempt to make the book accessible to all in different but relevant practical ways. Articulating a philosophy for living life via experience, Russon argues for being at home in the world through family, community, and language to experience freedom: each person—in his or her own social, cultural, political, and geographic context—can experience expanded consciousness navigating life and avoid the risks of indifference, nihilism, and apathy. This is a book for those interested in philosophy and cultural criticism.

Summing Up: Recommended. Lower- and upper-division undergraduates; graduate students; general readers.

Reviewer: D. B. Levy (/search?reviewer=D. B. Levy), Touro College, Lander College for Women
Recommendation: Recommended
Readership Level: General Readers, Lower-division Undergraduates, Upper-division Undergraduates, Graduate Students, Two-Year Technical Program Students
Interdisciplinary Subjects:
Subject: Humanities (/search?q=&sbj[]=hum)
Choice Issue: mar 2018 vol. 55 no. 7
Choice Review #: 55-2360